

We claim:

1. A movable barrier operator comprising:
 - a movable barrier controller;
 - at least a first movable barrier force sensor input operably coupled to the movable barrier controller;
 - a first memory operably coupled to the movable barrier controller, which first memory at least includes compressed data that corresponds to force data as regards movement of a movable barrier;
 - a second memory operably coupled to the movable barrier controller, which second memory at least includes at least a portion of the compressed data in uncompressed form.
2. The movable barrier operator of claim 1 wherein the compressed data corresponds to force information for a plurality of movable barrier positions.
3. The movable barrier operator of claim 2 wherein the compressed data further corresponds to force information for a plurality of movable barrier positions as relate to movement of the movable barrier from a first position to a second position.
4. The movable barrier operator of claim 3 wherein the first position comprises an opened position and the second position comprises a closed position.
5. The movable barrier operator of claim 3 wherein the first position comprises a closed position and the second position comprises an opened position.
6. The movable barrier operator of claim 2 wherein the compressed data further corresponds to force information for a plurality of movable barrier positions at a plurality of environmental conditions.
7. The movable barrier operator of claim 6 wherein the plurality of environmental conditions comprise a plurality of different temperatures.
8. The movable barrier operator of claim 1 wherein the compressed data is compressed as a function of a delta compression scheme.

9. The movable barrier operator of claim 1 wherein the compressed data is compressed as a function of a dictionary compression scheme.
10. The movable barrier operator of claim 1 wherein the compressed data is compressed as a function of a run-length encoding scheme.
11. The movable barrier operator of claim 1 wherein the compressed data is all compressed as a function of a common compression scheme.
12. The movable barrier operator of claim 1 wherein at least a first part of the compressed data is compressed using a first resultant compression ratio and at least a second part of the compressed data is compressed using a second resultant compression ratio that is different from the first resultant compression ratio.
13. The movable barrier operator of claim 1 wherein the movable barrier controller further comprises a data compressor.
14. The movable barrier operator of claim 13 wherein the movable barrier controller further comprises at least a first and a second data compressor, wherein the first data compression engine is different from the second data compressor.
15. The movable barrier operator of claim 1 and further comprising a user operable compression adjustment interface that is operably coupled to the movable barrier controller.
16. The movable barrier operator of claim 1 wherein the first memory further comprises at least a first memory socket.
17. The movable barrier operator of claim 16 wherein the movable barrier controller further comprises a data compressor selector that is responsive to whether a memory is operably disposed in the first memory socket.

18. A method comprising:

at a movable barrier operator:

- detecting force as corresponds to travel of a movable barrier during at least portions of the travel to provide sensed force information;
- compressing information that corresponds to at least some of the sensed force information to provide compressed force information;
- storing the compressed force information;
- uncompressing at least some of the compressed force information.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein detecting force comprises detecting force at predetermined movable barrier positions.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein detecting force comprises detecting force at predetermined time intervals.

21. The method of claim 18 wherein detecting force comprises detecting force on a substantially continuous basis.

22. The method of claim 18 wherein compressing comprises using a delta compression scheme.

23. The method of claim 18 wherein compressing comprises using a dictionary compression scheme.

24. The method of claim 18 wherein compressing comprises using a run-length encoding scheme.

25. The method of claim 18 wherein compressing comprises using a selected compression rate from amongst a plurality of compression rates.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein using a selected compression rate from amongst a plurality of compression rates further comprises automatically selecting the selected compression rate from amongst the plurality of compression rates.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein automatically selecting the selected compression rate from amongst the plurality of compression rates further comprises automatically selecting the selected compression rate from amongst the plurality of compression rates as a function, at least in part, of memory resources.

28. The method of claim 26 wherein automatically selecting the selected compression rate from amongst the plurality of compression rates further comprises automatically selecting the selected compression rate from amongst the plurality of compression rates as a function, at least in part, of a force sensing rate.

29. The method of claim 26 wherein automatically selecting the selected compression rate from amongst the plurality of compression rates further comprises automatically selecting the selected compression rate from amongst the plurality of compression rates as a function, at least in part, of a user input.

30. The method of claim 18 wherein compressing further comprises selecting a compression scheme from amongst a plurality of compression schemes.

31. The method of claim 30 wherein selecting a compression scheme from amongst a plurality of compression schemes further comprises automatically selecting a compression scheme from amongst a plurality of compression schemes.

32. A movable barrier controller comprising:

- operator means for controlling movement of a movable barrier;
- force sensor means operably coupled to the operator means for detecting an amount of force as is currently being applied to effect movement of the movable barrier;
- position determination means operably coupled to the operator means for determining a present respective position of the movable barrier;
- data compression means operably coupled to the operator means for compressing force information to provide compressed force information;
- memory means operably coupled to the operator means for storing the compressed force information and at least a portion of the compressed force information in uncompressed form.

33. The movable barrier controller of claim 32 wherein the data compression means further comprises a plurality of data compression schemes.

34. The movable barrier controller of claim 32 wherein the data compression means further comprises a plurality of resultant data compression rates.

35. The movable barrier controller of claim 32 wherein the data compression means is operably responsive to capacity of the memory means.